(b) if so, the details thereof and the results of the survey;

(c) the major bottlenecks hindering the pace of fiscal reforms; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to remove them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) Government of India has carried out an internal Mid Term review of States' Fiscal Reforms Facility (2000-01 to 2004-05), created on the basis of recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission. The review has, inter-alia, pointed out that the 'Medium Term Fiscal Reforms Programme' approach under this facility, has given the States and the Centre a more credible framework within which to view state finances, trends, corrective actions and measurable impact of such steps. The review has identified that States have performed variously in reducing the ratio of their revenue deficit to total revenue receipts. Major areas of concern, according to the review, are the mounting non-plan revenue expenditure and debt burden of the states including guarantees. Government of India has initiated several measures to give impetus to fiscal reforms, including Debt Swap Scheme, Reform Oriented Schemes like Accelerated Power Development Reforms Programme (APDRP), Urban Reforms Initiative Fund (URIF), Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). Government has also streamlined the process for containing States' exposure to guarantee based borrowings.

Variation in foreign exchange reserves

2226. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the variation in forex reserves from week to week since August 30, 2003, indicating the foreign currency assets, Gold Reserves and SDRs contents thereof;

(b) the total foreign debts as on August 30 and November 30, 2003, and the per capita debt in the country; and

(c) how far the forex reserve increase attributable to disinvestment of PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The details of India's foreign

exchange reserves (in US $ million) since week-ending August 29, 2003 are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) India compiles its external debt data on a quarterly basis *i.e.* at end-March, end-June, end-September, and end-December. India's external debt as on end-March, 2003 and end-June 2003 stood at US $104.55 billion and US $ 109.58 billion, respectively. The per capita external debt of India at end-December 2002 stood at US $ 101.2.

(c) The forex reserve increase was not attributable to disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)

Statement

India's Weekly Foreign Exchange Reserve (in US $ Million)

Week Ending	SDRs	Gold	FCA	Total
August 29, 2003	3	3,628	82,624	86,255
Sept. 5, 2003	3	3,720	83,642	87,365
Sept. 12, 2003	4	3,720	84,132	87,856
Sept. 19, 2003	4	3,720	84,832	88,556
Sept. 26, 2003	4	3,720	85,603	89,327
Oct. 3, 2003	4	3,919	83,815	87,738
Oct. 10, 2003	4	3,919	86,430	90,353
Oct. 17, 2003	4	3,919	87,392	91,315
Oct. 24, 2003	4	3,19	87,969	91,892
Nov. 7, 2003	4	3,920	89,287	93,211
Nov. 14, 2003	3	3,920	89,740	93,663
Nov. 21, 2003	3	3,920	91,450	95,373

Comparison of Income Tax collections

2227. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total income-tax collections during April to September, 2003 and the comparative figures for 2002 and 2001 indicating Slab-wise break-